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PREPARATIONS FOR THE NEW PARTY SCHOOL YEAR IN ALBANIA

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The 1953-1954 party school year in Gjinokaster Rreth has been successfully completed and, in general, the program of studies in all phases of party education has been satisfactorily carried out.

Discussions held everywhere indicate that the work of raising the ideological-political level of Communists and nonparty members was one of the main problems of the party primary organizations during the past scholastic year. Realizing their responsibility in the success of the educational program of the party, the primary organizations examined this problem time after time. The members of primary organization bureaus and their secretaries maintained regular contact with propagandists, supervising and helping them often in their work. As a result, improvement was shown in an overwhelming majority of the discussions.

There were shortcomings during the past scholastic year, but the year's mistakes, as well as the successes, constitute good experience for the new party scholastic year, beginning with the period of preparation. The agitation and propaganda section of the rreth party committee has the duty of organizing, following up, and applying the program of studies in the educational activities of the party. In deciding who would attend the courses and which propagandists would direct them, the agitation and propaganda section was guided by the past year's experience. This section submitted, for approval by the party committee, a report giving the number of courses of party education in villages, the number of participants, the composition of the courses, and the number of nonprofessional propagandists who will direct studies in the Dropulli i Foshtem and the Dropulli i Siperm areas. A similar report covering courses in cities is now being prepared for submission to the party committee for approval.

The need for a more intensive study by the primary party organizations of nonparty elements fitted to take part in party educational work was pointed out in the last 4-day seminar with the secretaries of party primary organizations. The need is great, as shown by experiences in 1953 in certain localities, especially Libohove, Lunxheri, and Kardhiq, where there was disagreement on the selection of nonparty members for party educational courses. For this reason, it was suggested once again to reduce the list of participants in party educational courses within the shortest possible time.

Propagandists are the main figures in party education. In their selection and appointment, their practical ability to teach on a high level and to help students gain as many benefits as possible, as well as their ideological and cultural capabilities, must be considered. During the past year, some party members were appointed as propagandists only because they had a good ideological-political and cultural background, and had finished a school of higher education or a party school. No consideration was given to whether they were in a position to fulfill their duties as propagandists while charged with many other state and party duties. These comrades, occupied with many other jobs, were unable to form classes regularly. As a result, there were deficiencies in the courses they directed, and the educational program of the party was greatly damaged.

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This year [1954-1955?], a better criterion for selecting propagandists has been followed. Only able Communists charged with a minimum of state and party duties have been selected as propagandists. Except when necessary, secretaries of party primary organizations have not been appointed as propagandists. Secretaries should be free to exercise their administrative and supervisory role in educational work and in the party, to keep in close contact with the propagandists, and to help them in a more efficient development of educational work. This does not mean, however, that only Communists with no other party duties have been selected as propagandists. In the village of Bularat, Eli Dalani has again been appointed as a propagandist, although she is secretary of the party primary organization. Last year, she proved that she is capable of fulfilling the duties of both jobs.

The propagandists selected this year to direct party propaganda have, in general good ideological-political and cultural backgrounds. Most of them have attended the party 5-month and 2-month courses, while others have also finished the party school.

Until the new party scholastic year begins, summer seminars are being carried on for propagandists. A seminar on theoretical and methodical themes for professional propagandists began on 15 July and will continue to 15 August. On 15 August, when the 5-month party course begins, a one-month summer seminar will open for nonprofessional propagandists in villages, while the course for nonprofessional city propagandists will begin on 15 September and continue to 1 October. Propagandists will learn much from those who attended last year's courses about the party propaganda methods used during the past year in the rreth.

In view of the value of visual aids in the assimilation of material, a series of graphic presentations, such as maps and graphs, is being prepared for the new party scholastic year.

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- 2 -